

At para 0079, lines 54-60 Niemeyer et al teach that, after "biotinylated antibody ... combined with streptavidin coupled to a particular nucleic acid" is added to the sample, "a label connected to a complementary nucleic acid" is separately added. The "label" of the latter reagent is the "marker". Further, as explained in applicants' previous response, the complex described by Niemeyer et al at para 0079, lines 54-56 is used in an assay significantly different than that of Fig. 5 discussed by Niemeyer et al in para. 0127.

3. The examiner has not identified any teaching in Niemeyer et al suggesting that reagents of different assays be combined into a kit.

In point of fact, Niemeyer et al provides no such motivation or suggestion.

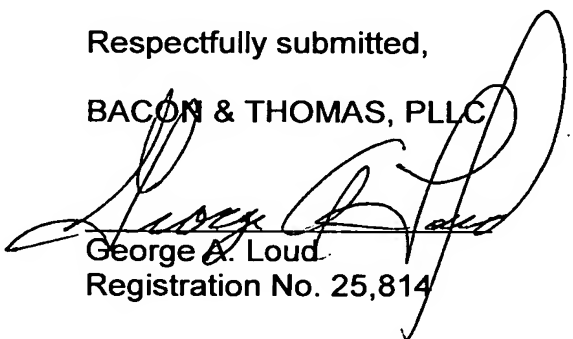
Reconsideration in view of the foregoing is respectfully requested. A petition for a further one month extension accompanies this paper.

March 24, 2006
Date

625 Slaters Lane-Fourth Floor
Alexandria, Virginia 22314
703 683-0500

Respectfully submitted,

BACON & THOMAS, PLLC


George A. Loud
Registration No. 25,814